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# Message Text

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44
ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 COME-00 INT-05

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---------- 007092
P 302029Z APR 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:EMIN, ETRD, BL

SUBJECT: TIN: BOLIVIAN INTENTIONS TOWARD FIFTH INTER-
NATIONAL TIN AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 101820

1. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY HAS PROVIDED DEPARTMENT WITH COPY
OF MESSAGE TO BOLIVIAN MINISTER OF MINES FROM J.D. ANTHONY,
AUSTRALIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER; MINISTERFOR OVERSEAS
TRADE; AND MINISTER FOR NATIONAL RESOURCES, CONCERNING
BOLIVIAN ANNOUNCEMENT ON FIFTH ITA. TEXT OF MESSAGE,
WHICH AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY REQUESTS NOT BE RELEASED UNTIL
SUCH TIME AS MESSAGE MAY BE MADE PUBLIC, FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE. MY DEAR MINISTER,

PARAGRAPH. I HAVE LEARNED WITH DEEP CONCERN FROM OUR REPRE-
SENTATIVES IN LONDON THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT DOES NOT INTEND TO
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SIGN THE 5TH INTERNATIONAL TIN AGREEMENT AND I AM WRITING

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TO YOU TO EXPRESS AUSTRALIA'S EARNEST HOPE THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT'S DECISION IS NOT A FINAL ONE.

PARAGRAPH. THERE CAN OF COURSE BE NO EFFECTIVE INTER-NATIONAL TIN AGREEMENT WITHOUT BOLIVIA. I AM SURE THAT YOU

WILL AGREE THAT OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS SUCCESSIVE TIN AGREEMENTS HAVE BROUGHT VERY REAL BENEFITS TO PRODUCING COUNTRIES, PROVIDING AS THEY HAVE A HIGH DEGREE OF MARKET STABILITY AND AVOIDING THE SEVERELY DEPRESSED PRICE LEVELS WHICH HAVE ALL TOO OFTEN CHARACTERIZED OTHER NON-FERROUS METALS. WHILE THE NEW AGREEMENT MAY NOT MEET ALL THE OBJECTIVES OF ALL PRODUCERS, IT RETAINS THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE CURRENT AGREEMENT. IN ADDITION, THE NEW AGREEMENT SPECIFICALLY PROVIDES FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRI-BUTIONS TO THE BUFFER STOCK BY CONSUMING COUNTRIES; I REGARD THIS AS A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD. YOU WILL NO DOUBT KNOW THAT, ALREADY, THE UNITED KINGDOM, FRANCE, THE NETHERLANDS AND BELGIUM INTEND TO MAKE VOLUNTARY CONTRI-BUTIONS TO THE BUFFER STOCK WHILE OTHER COUNTRIES ARE GIVING SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION TO SUCH CONTRIBUTIONS. FOR AUSTRALIA'S PART, WE ARE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NEW AGREEMENT ON THE BASIS OF PRODUCTION RATHER THAN EXPORTS AS IS THE CASE NOW; THIS WILL MEAN A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN AUSTRALIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE BUFFER STOCK.

PARAGRAPH. YOU WILL BE AWARE THAT, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA INTENDS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE AGREEMENT. I BELIEVE THAT THIS IS AN INDICATION OF A VERY DESIRABLE CHANGE IN ATTITUDE BY THE UNITED STATES TOWARDS INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION DESIGNED TO SOLVE INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY TRADE PROBLEMS.

PARAGRAPH. IN THE BROADER CONTEXT, FAILURE OF THE NEW AGREEMENT TO COME INTO OPERATION COULD UNDERMINE THE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS WHICH IS BEING MADE IN TACKLING COMMODITY TRADE PROBLEMS IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORA. I HAVE IN MIND PARTICULARLY THE VERY IMPORTANT DIALOGUE WHICHIS NOW TAKING PLACE AT MEETINGS BEING HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COOPERATION IN PARIS AND IN UNCTAD. COMMODITY PROBLEMS WILL BE A MAJOR ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AT THE 4TH UNCTAD CONFERENCE WHICH STARTS AT NAIROBI NEXT WEEK. THERE IS, I BELIEVE,A GROWING DISPOSITION ON THE PART OF MANY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO ADOPT A MORE FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE TO THE PROBLEMS OF COMMODITY TRADE AND THEIR IMPACT ON DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ESPECIALLY. FAILURE, AT THIS TIME, OF THE ONE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY AGREEMENT CURRENTLY IN

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EXISTENCE COULD SET BACK THE MOMENTUM WHICH HAS DEVELOPED
AND SERIOUSLY IMPAIR THE PROGRESS OF INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS
TO TACKLE THE PROBLEMS OF OTHER COMMODITIES.

PARAGRAPH. I AM HOPEFUL THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH I
UNDERSTAND YOU WILL BE HAVING WITH EXECUTIVES OF THE
INTERNATIONAL TIN COUNCIL TODAY WILL HELP TO RESOLVE THE

PRESENT DIFFICULTY AND CLEAR THE WAY FOR BOLIVIAN PARTICI-
PATION IN THE NEW AGREEMENT. YOURS SINCERELY, J.D.
ANTHONY, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS TRADE
AND MINISTER FOR NATIONAL RESOURCES. END QUOTE. SISCO

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# Message Attributes

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**Subject:** TIN: BOLIVIAN INTENTIONS TOWARD FIFTH INTER- NATIONAL TIN AGREEMENT
**TAGS:** EMIN, ETRD, BL, AS, (ANTHONY, J D)
**To:** LA PAZ LONDON
**Type:** TE
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006